

**Virginia OEMS
Communications Committee
Quarterly Meeting
The Place @ Innsbrook
Glen Allen, VA
Aug 4th, 2006
9:00 AM**

Attendance: Members: Gary Critzer; Ken Crumpler; Emily Totten; Connie Purvis; Doug Young, **Guests:** Jim Nogle, Beth Singer.

Via Teleconference-**Members:** John Hudson; Bob Bruch

Topic/Subject	Discussion	Recommendations, Action/Follow-up; Responsible Person
Call to Order – Gary Critzer	Committee Chair, Gary Critzer called the meeting to order. Mr. Critzer announced all committee members should have received the minutes from the previous meeting and called for any discussion on the minutes as presented, hearing none the request was made to approve the minutes as delivered. Ms. Purvis requested Mr. Critzer add the Chair's report to the meeting minutes in the future.	A motion was made by Ms. Purvis to accept the minutes as delivered, Mr. Hudson seconded the motion. The committee voted unanimously to accept the minutes with no further discussion
Committee Chair report – Gary Critzer	Mr. Critzer commented on the communications track of the EMS Symposium. He is very pleased with the classes being offered and requests all committee members do all they can to promote the symposium to the communications community through out Virginia. Mr. Critzer was unable to attend the Regulation and Compliance Committee meeting on Aug 3 rd , 2006. He was told the communications regulations were discussed and some updates may be needed to address interoperability.	
OEMS Communications Coordinators report – Ken Crumpler	Mr. Crumpler submitted a draft version of the PSAP section of the communications directory via e-mail to all committee members. He will have the IT dept. put the data on line at the OEMS website and send a mass e-mail (thru APCO server and other means) for the localities to review the information pertinent to them and provide corrections and other appropriate edits back to OEMS via e-mail. The Medevac section of the directory was provided to Mr. Crumpler by Mr. Paul Sharpe, Trauma Coordinator @ OEMS and will be included on the final copy. Mr. Crumpler reported having difficulty accessing the hospital contact information and requested any assistance committee members could provide to gather and compile that information. Ms. Purvis questioned why not all agencies were included in the initial draft. Mr. Crumpler explained that the agencies listed were first response, 911 dispatched Designated Emergency Response Agencies. Mr. Nogle questioned if the non-DERA agencies were to be included in the final copy of the directory and if there was a time line for the corrections on the PSAP section of the directory to be completed. Mr. Crumpler advised there would be a set time for agencies to make corrections/edits after the draft was made available on the OEMS website. Ms. Purvis asked which are of the Commonwealth would be the most difficult to get the hospital information from. Mr. Crumpler said he did not know. Mr. Young asked about agencies having multiple	Mr. Critzer suggested Ms. Marge Sidebottom @ UVA may have information concerning hospital contacts, Mr. Nogle suggested VHHA may have information as well as contacted thru VDH EP&R Ms. Purvis and Mr. Hudson recommended that the commercial, non-DERA agencies be included in an appendix of the directory. Mr. Nogle agreed the non-DERA agencies be included.

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	<p>dispatch points. Mr. Crumpler noted that had been addressed and provided in the draft. Mr. Critzer asked if there would be an electronic copy available and Mr. Hudson asked if there would be a downloadable version from the OEMS website. Ms. Purvis asked if agency telephone numbers would be included. Mr. Crumpler stated he would rather not include the agency telephone be included so all communications be routed thru the PSAP. Ms. Purvis asked if e-mail addresses for PSAP directors would be provided. Mr. Crumpler stated that if an appropriate web-site address is available that could be included but personnel should not be listed as positions change. Mr. Critzer requested that agency telephone numbers should be included.</p> <p>Mr. Crumpler introduced Ms. Beth Singer, the new Public Relations Coordinator for OEMS and asked her to speak to the committee. Ms. Singer introduced herself, spoke of her background in public safety and public relations.</p> <p>Mr. Crumpler attended the STARS/UARC meeting on July 14th at VSP Admin HQ. Due to equipment issues w/Motorola, installations have been suspended until further notice. OEMS has not been advised if installations have resumed.</p> <p>06 EMS Symposium communications track completed and there has been one additional class added ref: Communications with medevac resources.</p>	
Old business -	<p>Virginia EMS Regulation updates – Discussion in the Regulation & Policy meeting regarding interoperability. The plan remains for OEMS to provide VHF-High Band portables to all licensed EMS vehicles. The suggestion was also made that Virginia EMS Regulations for communications include all licensed EMS Agencies must comply with Virginia State Interoperability Plan. This is to limit reliance on commercial radio systems.</p> <p>Per Mr. Nogle, a funding stream has been identified for EMS communications interoperability initiative to provide VHF high band portables to all licensed EMS agencies not using VHF high band systems. Ms. Purvis questioned who would hold the licensure for statewide use of 155.205 MHz. Mr. Crumpler stated this was covered thru the license held by the commonwealth of Virginia. Mr. Hudson asked if a PL code would be used in the system, Mr. Critzer commented that the uniformity of carrier squelch would be easiest application in working with other agencies.</p>	<p>Mr. Young made a motion that the communications committee support modifying Virginia EMS communications regulations to include licensed EMS Agencies communications systems must comply with the Virginia State Interoperability Plan. Mr. Hudson second with all membership in agreement.</p>
New Business -	<p>Mr. Young questioned the oversight of the EM System program. Ms. Purvis stated this program was funded through HRSA funding and Near S/W Disaster Preparedness group oversaw the program in certain areas. There was group discussion on the benefits of PSAP's using the EM System and WEB EOC computer systems.</p> <p>Mr. Critzer announced the next communications committee meeting will be scheduled at the</p>	

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	<p>same time as EMS Symposium and requested input from the committee on whether to schedule the meeting at symposium, or forgo the next scheduled meeting. Mr. Crumpler stated for those not able to attend the meeting at Symposium would be able to call in via teleconference as is available for each meeting. The consensus was for the communications committee to meet at Symposium.</p> <p>Mr. Critzer thanked Mr. Crumpler and Mr. Scott Winston from OEMS for making the PSAP EMD Accreditation to the Waynesboro City Council and stated it was very well received.</p> <p>There was discussion by the committee to list all the accredited PSAP's on the OEMS website. Mr. Young suggested a seal or insignia be developed to signify PSAP's accredited by OEMS. Mr. Critzer suggested a sign be placed at Symposium listing all PSAP's accredited by OEMS as well as other promotions at Symposium detailing all accredited PSAP's (the OEMS calendar, part of the slide presentation at Symposium banquet, .</p>	<p>Mr. Crumpler stated he would follow up with these suggestions.</p>
PUBLIC COMMENT	None	
Adjournment	Meeting adjourned at 10:04 hrs	